

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BAGHDA 00129 081215Z

46

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SAM-01 IO-14 OMB-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /129 W

----- 034804

R 081048Z MAR 74

FM USINT BAGHDAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 819

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

USUN NEW YORK 16

UNCLAS BAGHDAD 0129

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MOPS, IZ, IR

SUBJECT: IRAQI-IRANIAN BORDER CLASHES

1. IRAQI CHIEF OF GENERAL STAFF ISSUED FOLLOWING COMMUNIQUE
MARCH 5:

2. "FOLLOWING A BRIEF PERIOD SINCE RECENT IRANIAN VIOLATION
OF SOVEREIGNTY OF TERRITORIES OF IRAQ AT IRAQI BADRA DISTRICT,
SUCH AN ACT WAS FOLLOWED BY A SERIES OF OTHER PROVOCATIONS
COVERING VARIOUS REGIONS, AS WELL AS CONTINUOUS CONCENTRATIONS
ALONGSIDE THE BORDERS.

3. "ON MORNING OF MARCH 4 IRANIAN SIDE OPENED FIRE FROM ITS
HEAVY ARTILLERY AND MEDIUM-SIZE MORTAR GUNS, IN A CONCENTRATED
MANNER, ON OUR BORDER FORCES AT ZAIN AL-QAWS AREA OF IRAQ AS
WELL AS AT TRENCHES SURROUNDING MOHAMMED KHIDER POST OF IRAQ
FROM 8 A.M. THROUGH UNTIL 5 0.M. THE SAME DAY.

4. "IRANIAN SIDE, AN FOR SECOND TIME STARTED OPENING FIRE AS
FROM 2 A.M. INMORNING OF THIS DAY (MARCH 5) FIRING IS STILL
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CONTINUING ON OUR BORDER FORCES.

5. "OUR BORDER FORCES HAVE OPENED FIRE OF THEIR WEAPONS, THUS RETURNING FIRE ON THE IRANIAN SIDE UNTIL THE HOUR OF THE PREPARATION OF THIS STATEMENT.

6 "PRE-PLANNED IRANIAN AGGRESSIONS RESULTED IN WOUNDING OF ONE OFFICE AND ELEVEN GUARDS OF OUR BORDER FORCES IN ADDITION TO THE MARTYRDROM OF THREE GUARDS AS A RESULT OF THIS AGGRESSION." LOWRIE

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NNN

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